

## Health in All Policies Task Force Update to the Strategic Growth Council March 2014 - May 2014

The California Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force was charged by Executive Order S-04-10 in 2010 to identify priority programs, policies, and strategies to improve the health of Californians while also advancing the goals of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC). The Task Force consists of representatives from 22 different State agencies, departments, and offices, who contribute their time to this initiative. The Task Force is facilitated by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and staffing is provided through a partnership with the Public Health Institute (PHI), with funding from multiple sources. The mandate that created the Office of Health Equity (OHE), housed within CDPH, requires the office and Task Force to work collaboratively to advance health equity in California. This update report shares highlights of Task Force work for the period of activity from March through May of this year. Progress continues on 8 implementation plans endorsed by the SGC.

### Highlights of Task Force work and interagency projects:

- A productive and well-attended Task Force meeting was held in May 2014 to review progress and new opportunities for cross-sectorial collaboration to advance healthy and sustainable communities, with a particular focus on active transportation (e.g. walking, biking, and public transit), prioritizing and renewing implementation plans, and strengthening partnership with the OHE.
- The Task Force continues to prioritize **Active Transportation** as a key indicator of healthy and sustainable communities. Task Force members have held a series of meetings with State partners and non-government stakeholders to document progress in this area and agree upon new goals, objectives, and action steps for the Task Force's 2014 Active Transportation Renewal Implementation Plan.
- Promoting **Access to Healthy Food** remains a growing area of interest for the Task Force.
  - The Task Force's State Food Procurement Work Group, a multi-agency partnership of nine government entities, collaborated to create nutrition guidelines for healthy food procurement and food service in California's state adult correctional facilities. By applying these voluntary guidelines to specific food purchasing contracts, the Department of General Services (DGS) is supporting healthy food purchasing and menu planning by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, for the general adult prison population. Since many institutions use DGS food purchasing contracts, this presents opportunities for a variety of entities, including local jails, to purchase healthier foods.
  - Demonstrating the importance of cross agency staffing, HiAP staff placed a graduate intern within the California Department of Food and Agriculture Farm to Fork Office. The office is a product of collaboration between CDPH and the Department of Education. The intern will specifically work with Farm to Fork staff and the Pittsburg (California) Unified School District to increase the amount of locally produced food served by the Contra Costa County School Food Service Buyer's Collaborative.
- At the request of Task Force members, staff are working with the Task Force to organize a series of topic-specific "HiAP Academy" educational events for deepening understanding on important topics related to advancing health, equity, and sustainability. The first of this series took place on March 17<sup>th</sup> and explored the legal basis for health as a human right. A number of colleagues from state agencies engaged in a robust discussion about how a legal right to health is and could be integrated into policy and decision making.

- At the request of the Task Force, staff partnered with the Office of Planning and Research to facilitate an opportunity for members to provide input to the Governor’s **Environmental Goals and Policy Report**. Six departments and agencies participated, and the discussion focused on the proposed vision, goals, and indicators for the report.

**Highlights of infrastructure and capacity development for the Task Force:**

- The Task Force has expanded its membership to include the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the California Government Operations Agency, and the Department of General Services. Each of these organizations brings the potential to pursue new opportunities to promote health, equity, and sustainability.
- The Governor’s proposed budget for FY 2014-15 includes four positions at CDPH with funding from CDPH that are needed in order for CDPH to facilitate and provide technical assistance to the Task Force. There has been strong testimony in favor of the proposal at both Assembly and Senate health committee hearings.
- The Office of Health Equity strategic planning process continues to gather stakeholder expertise across diverse policy areas. The Task Force has been engaged in providing input on the strategic priorities of the plan as per authorizing statutes of the Office of Health Equity. In order to achieve greater health equity, high level policy change regarding the social determinants of health (environment, housing, food, transportation, employment, etc.) are necessary, which is why the legislation describes an important link between the Task Force and the Office of Health Equity. A Task Force representative is a member of the Office of Health Equity Advisory Committee.

**Highlights of HiAP external capacity building and outreach:**

- In April, HiAP staff at both CDPH and PHI provided a day-long Health in All Policies workshop to public health leaders in several counties in the Central Valley including Merced, Tulare, Fresno, Stanislaus, Madera, and Kern.
- The California HiAP Task Force continues to be a model for Health in All Policies work outside of the State of California. In recent months, HiAP staff have engaged in conversations with stakeholders across the country, including with leadership in Virginia and New Hampshire, as well as the World Health Organization.
- The chair of the HiAP Housing Siting and Air Quality work group participated on an interagency panel on the housing, health, planning and mitigation near roadway issues on March 25th at the Association of Environmental Professionals Annual Conference in Huntington Beach.
- Participating as members of the Advisory Committee of the pending California Freight Mobility Plan (CFMP), HiAP Housing Siting and Air Quality work group representatives from the Department of Housing and Community Development and CDPH are providing input intended to facilitate mitigation of near roadway impacts on sensitive populations. The Draft CFMP, drafted by Caltrans, includes a chapter on “Community and Environmental Context,” along with recommendation strategies to advance a goal to “Avoid and reduce adverse environmental and community impacts of the freight transportation system.” ARB is working on a Freight Strategy in coordination with development of the CFMP.

For further information please see [www.sgc.ca.gov/hiap](http://www.sgc.ca.gov/hiap) or contact [hiap@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:hiap@cdph.ca.gov).